

## American Sector of Battle Front Northwest of Toul, Where German Troops Are Gathering in Great Numbers for a New Drive.



**HUGE** concentrations of German troops are taking place on the Woivre Plateau, just north of the American line, and on the Meuse hills, in the sector between Verdun and St. Mihiel, most of which is held by American troops. Many reports of these movements are made by American patrols and they are confirmed by observations of the airmen.

westward in the rear of the enemy lines northwest of Toul were reported this morning to the American patrols. Aerial observers made similar reports, saying that at one time the flames from the funnels of the locomotives of several trains were visible simultaneously.

### U. S. TROOPS DRIVE INTO SECOND LINE

#### Airmen Win Fight, Forcing German Plans Down.

WASHINGTON, June 6.—Gen. Pershing's communique to-night announces that American and French troops advanced their lines northwest of Chateau Thierry this morning, capturing prisoners and inflicting severe losses, in killed and wounded on the enemy. The statement follows:

In an attack northwest of Chateau Thierry this morning our troops, in conjunction with the French, advanced our lines of Torcy about a mile, capturing prisoners and inflicting severe losses in killed and wounded.

There was lively artillery fighting in Lorraine last night, our batteries executing effective reprisals and neutralization fire.

There is nothing else of importance to report.

The story of how an American patrol of forty men, outnumbered two to one, held its ground in Lorraine on the night of June 2 for three-quarters of an hour and only retired when its ammunition became exhausted is told in a continuation of Gen. Pershing's communique of yesterday received here to-day. The communique follows:

Section B. On the morning of June 5 Lieut. Campbell and Melner found down an enemy biplane east of Font-a-Mousson.

Between April 14 and May 31 Lieut. Douglas Campbell brought down six hostile airplanes of which destruction has been confirmed. During the same time Capt. Peterson and Lieut. Rickbacher each brought down three, of which destruction has been confirmed, and forced two more, the latter action also having been confirmed.

During the night of June 2 to June 3 one of our patrols operating in Lorraine, and consisting of about forty men, encountered a hostile patrol of double its size drawn up in skirmish formation along a line parallel to that of our own patrol. Both patrols opened fire with rifles, pistols, grenades and automatic rifles and each tried to outflank the other. Our patrol, in spite of being greatly outnumbered, held its ground for three-quarters of an hour, inflicting losses on the enemy, and retired only when the ammunition was almost exhausted. Our casualties were very light.

During the night of June 4 to June 5

Whether it is the German plan to attack in force in the district or to direct the blow at some other point nearby is not yet clear. It has been the practice of the Germans heretofore when checked in a drive to shift their attack to a new sector and since it has become clear that the offensive on the Marne has been stopped, for a time at least, such a shift has been looked for by the French and British experts, many of whom see in the American sector northwest of Toul the logical place for such an offensive.

### U. S. TROOPS PREPARE FOR OPEN WARFARE

#### Training Is Being Concentrated on Offensive Tactics.

WASHINGTON, June 6.—American troops in training at home are being especially schooled now in preparation for the forward movement of the allied armies expected to follow the ultimate crushing of Germany's offensive power. Orders have been issued to division commanders to lay greater stress upon training for open warfare and reduce the time devoted to teaching trench specialties.

The men are being hardened to long marches, receive target practice without end and are thoroughly trained to take care of themselves in the give and take of open combat.

Military observers say this change in the midst of the greatest effort of the German General Staff of the entire war speaks significantly of the spirit of confidence that pervades the councils and armies of America and the Allies. When many of the men now in training here reach France long marches and swift maneuvering against a retreating foe may well be the order of the day.

Infantry officers returning from the front have been insisting recently upon greater attention to general elements of warfare and less to the fine details of position fighting in fixed trench lines. These officers say that the American soldier takes naturally to training of this sort and that he should be developed as highly as possible in all round soldiering, leaving the details of trench warfare education to be added by a brief post-graduate course when he reaches France. This view found ready sympathy here, for it is believed the old stalemate of the trench lines has been broken, never to be restored.

### AMERICANS' VALOR ELECTRIFIES FRANCE

#### Men Recently in Training Camps Now in Battle.

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PARIS, June 6.—News of the American participation in the battle of the Marne has stirred France even more perhaps than America. The country has been electrified by the glowing reports that come from the battlefield and the aspect of impatience, which at times characterized French feeling in regard to America's preparations, seemed to vanish as if by magic.

In official quarters, where confidence always has existed that the American participation would bear fruit, an unusual feeling of satisfaction prevailed that all that they had claimed for the

Americans had been justified by the fighting in Veully Wood.

The boulevard presented an unusually animated appearance when this news came out; the newspapers were bought eagerly and everybody showed marked signs of real pleasure on reading the French official statement the tribute to the Americans on the Marne. The general feeling found expression in the phrase, often repeated: "The Americans have kept their word."

Others recalled that only eleven months ago Gen. Pershing was leaving America with the skeleton of an army. That army, no longer a skeleton, is now taking a magnificent part in the great battle on the world's greatest battle field.

In this connection the correspondent of THE SUN is able to state on the au-

The first important fighting by American troops in the war took place at Seicheprey, nearly in the middle of the line where it crosses the Woivre Plateau. Since then there has been intermittent fighting on this sector increasing recently in scope and intensity, but without any large operation.

thority of a high French official that all the men who have been in training camps in France up to not long ago have been employed in the present fighting.

It is this practical aid of an army whose numbers, although it is not permitted to state them, cannot be ridiculed that has so warmed the hearts of French soldiers, the Government leaders and the whole people.

**SICK AND WOUNDED ARRIVE.**

200 Men Sent From France Last Half of May.

WASHINGTON, June 6.—During the week ended May 31 184 sick and

wounded soldiers of the American expeditionary forces were landed in this country. For the week ended May 24 sixteen arrived.

The soldiers have been sent to various army hospitals.

**Eleven More Win the Cross.**

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, June 6.—Eleven more officers and men of the American expeditionary forces have been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

They include three railway engineers who distinguished themselves in the night November 30 at Gouzeaucourt, in the central sector, when the Americans dropped their tools and aided in beating off a surprise attack by the enemy.



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